

Statement from Katie Jacobs, parent

Can we please have a list of what is available to our child via IEP, adaptation, modifications so we can engage more. We need to know what is available.

A statement to all schools for the start of the year.

"I am so done with this paper work signing! They want to save the planet but can't put the paper work online? I will walk myself in to your school to make an e signature so that I can fill out and e sign all your forms. All your teachers have iPads, computers or tablets of some kind. Have them organized well enough and backed up w backup power so they can get all the forms at their fingertip! Let me just change what needs to be changed on the pink slip but if nothing has changed save the tree, earth, money and my time!

And for the love of God do not punish my ASD child for something I did!

Do they not know how hard the start of school is? The love and hate, the anxiety, the time, the desire to learn, the challenges to do it, the hurt they feel, the death of part of our heart every time their life is made just a bit harder?

Get on board with us don't fight us!!"

Transportation

Why does it have to be such a fight to have our child transported safely? Appoquinimik took away the vans and went to busses for the preschool so now the kids are scared. They no longer have the mom mom or pop pop driver playing the songs they sing in school, books passed back if they are scared, a kind voice to comfort them or mom and dad buckling them in to their 5 point harnesses. Which I might add needed alot of training of proper use! Now we have large busses that are load, hot, and have to come alot earlier causing almost hour or longer rides for our 3-4 year old, kids who are scared of the aides buckling them in and getting them out and improper restraints on busses! Was there a value add? No! I had to fight to move my child's stop to a safer location. It's an hour before school starts, I buckle him in after a fight with Appoquinimik and transportation since he is scared of the aide and says she hurts his private parts even though they use the STARS seats, I had to make the head of transportation and the aide aware that the other children were not being restrained properly. Which I chose to do before the bus left instead of letting them arrive safely so the aide could get in trouble. There isn't one thing right in the system.

My sons 4 yo class at APC has 14 kids in it. Why? So they could take typical peers and receive cash! Where is that cash? Not in the non handicap accessible playground with mulch instead of rubber matting and old non age appropriate playground equipment. I brought this to the schools attention over the summer and what did they do? Dropped the height of the monkey bars down. The kids arm span still didn't change!

APC is loud, not sensory friendly. Sensory issues are still ignored and not thought of as a learning issue. A child with the delayed effect is not considered having a behavior or sensory learning issue in school even though school is causing the delayed effect!

Having a friendly or familiar object from one year to the next is not considered important even if the IEP is for lack of communication skills or not communicating to child's ability. How hard is it to keep a buddy

in the class, honor a teacher request by the previous teacher or mom because the child knows the hopefully new teacher or stick with the previous teacher? Let me tell you, not hard at all!

The special education system is broken in this state. The school couldn't recognize my older son had ASD and was not willing to provide services so we pay \$37,000 a year plus \$6,000 to drive him to the Centreville Layton School for an appropriate education. Isn't he suppose to be given that by law?

Why is it that the only classes with 7 or less kids are behavior classes? Why can't we have high IQ genius classes with 7 kids 2 teachers for ASD kids? Hasn't anyone caught on that is how some learn?

Everyone doesn't need inclusion, everyone can't handle the lunch room or recess. Everyone doesn't fit the cookie cutter mold.

Please share, think on these items and take them to heart as special Ed effects everyone differently.

Really you need 5 parents from each school!

Thank you for your time.

Katie Jacobs